REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants' attorney, Robert Brown, had a brief telephone conference with Examiner on July 16, 2004, and Applicants' attorney appreciates Examiner's time and consideration of this matter. As noted in Examiner's Interview Summary, Applicants' attorney sought to clarify that the architecture underlying the system of claim 1 does not support multi-threading, while the architecture in the Hollberg reference does support multi-threading. Examiner agreed that the architecture of Hollberg could support multi-threading, although the API defined was single-threaded. The agreement was reached that the claims would be amended to clarify that the architecture where the client application and software agent operate is single-threaded.

Applicants have amended claim 1, which is the only independent claim pending in the present case, to clarify that the client application sending a first request to a software agent, **the client application and the software agent operating in a single-threaded architecture.**

As discussed with the Examiner during the interview on July 16, 2004, Applicants consider this amendment sufficient to overcome the rejection based on Hollberg, since the OII (object-oriented interface) of the Hollberg reference is provided as an API for the management applications to communicate in the C++ programming language with a telephony infrastructure. The object of the Hollberg reference is to eliminate the need for programmers to program in older, more cryptic programming languages such as XMP/XON to communicate with the telephony infrastructure. As noted by the Examiner and in the Hollberg reference, the OII was programmed as single-threaded. References to AIX, which is IBM's version of UNIX, in Hollberg support that UNIX is the architecture wherein the systems of Hollberg operate. (Hollberg col. 10, lines 39-41). Therefore, the OII could be programmed to run in a multi-threaded manner since the underlying architecture, namely C++ and UNIX, support multi-threaded capabilities. The present invention, however, operates in a mainframe environment with operating systems that do not support multiple threads and is programmed in languages without multi-threaded capabilities, such as COBOL.

Additional support that Hollberg operates in a multi-threaded architecture is provided in that the proxy managed objects of the OII in the Hollberg reference are stated as being local to the management application, or essentially object oriented instantiations. (Hollberg col. 8, lines

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45-46 and col. 7, lines 37-38). Asynchronous methods return control to the management application which spawned, as a thread, the OII and/or the proxy managed objects. (Hollberg col. 8, lines 60-61). Thus, the management application is a multi-threaded application running in a multi-threaded architecture or environment, even though the OII is programmed as single-threaded to pull and retrieve data. The system as claimed in claim 1, however, does not have the luxury of running multiple threads and must run as separate processes since it operates in a single threaded architecture.

To illustrate the differences between the present system and the Hollberg reference, Applicants have amended, as discussed with Examiner, claim 1 to clarify that the architecture in which the client application and software agent operate is single-threaded. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 1 overcome the rejections based on the Hollberg reference and that Hollberg, either alone or in combination, fails to teach, disclose, or suggest Applicants' system as claimed in claim 1. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, and dependent claims 2-15 which depend therefrom, and pass these claims to issue.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the application in its present form is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be helpful in expediting the application, Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (972) 731-2288. Applicants intend this communication to be a complete response to the Final Office Action mailed on May 5, 2004.
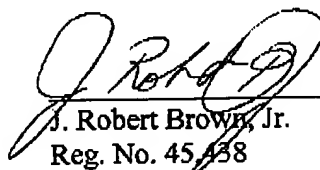
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the foregoing papers submitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765, Sprint.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _8/4/04_

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